The interplay of black hole binaries with their environment in gas-rich mergers

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Hierarchical evolution of MBHs

How do MBHs grow to become supermassive? BH-BH mergers and gas accretion





What we want to know

How and when BHs accrete mass

How fast BHs spin

How and when BHs merge

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Mergers and accretion



Do MBHs accrete before or after merging?

Katzantidis et al., Mayer et al., di Matteo et al., Hopkins et al.

Merger driven accretion



-"Standard" numerical Bondi-Hoyle accretion

-No feedback

Merger driven accretion



- turbulent motions
- extrapolation from the refined simulation

MBHs in merger remnants

Dotti et al. 2009



MBHs in circumnuclear disks

Dotti et al. 2009

Central MBH: $M_{\rm BH} = 4 \times 10^6 \, M_{\odot}$

Gaseous disk (Mestel): $M_{\rm Disc} = 10^8 \, {\rm M}_{\odot}$

 $R_{\text{Disc}} = 100 \text{ pc}$

Stellar bulge (Plummer):

 $M_{\rm Bulge} = 7 \cdot 10^8 \, {\rm M}_{\odot}$

a = 55 pc

Secondary MBH: $M_{\rm BH} = 4 \times 10^{6} \, {\rm M}_{\odot}$ e ≈ 0.7 co- or counter- rotating



MBHs in circumnuclear disks

Dotti et al. 2009

Adiabatic evolution: 'COLD' disk: $\gamma = 7/5$ 'HOT' disk: $\gamma = 5/3$

Accretion:

accrete only bound particles, within Bondi radius
need to resolve the MBHs Bondi radii (h=0.1 pc)

Co-rotating MBH (y=5/3)



Modulation in the accretion rate of the orbiting MBH

Accretion rate depends on the relative velocity between MBH and gas

Counter-rotating MBH (y=5/3)



Accretion rate depends on the relative velocity between MBH and gas

Accretion rate jumps when the MBH starts co-rotating – angular momentum flip

MBH mass accretion



Accretion depends on the orbital evolution

Accretion depends on the thermodynamical properties of the gas

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The second hair: spins

maximal accretion efficiency

Schwarzschild:spin=0ε=0.06maximally rotating:spin=0.998ε=0.31

 \checkmark growth time t

$$f_{acc} = 0.45 \frac{\epsilon}{1-\epsilon} \ln(\frac{M_{fin}}{M_{in}}) \text{Gyr}$$

importance of Blandford-Znajek energy extraction

GW parameters estimates

recoil velocities

Gravitational recoil

binary center of mass recoil during coalescence due to asymmetric emission of GW





Low kick velocities (~100 km s⁻¹) $\sim v_{esc}$ from high-z galaxies

High kick velocities (~1000 km s⁻¹) ~v_{esc} from today's galaxies L a_1 500.000 MC realizations for each $q=m_2/m_1$: - |a| homogeneously distributed between 0 and 1 - directions isotropically distributed



Recoiling MBHs



Random distribution of spin moduli

MBH mass ratio directly from the simulations: $q=m_2/m_1 \sim I$



Spin evolution: Bardeen-Peterson effect



Spin evolution





Secondary BH

CRE=cold disc,retrograde orbit HPE=hot disc, prograde orbit

Primary BH

Gas rich mergers : spins align to orbital angular momentum

Recoiling MBHs



Spin evolution: semi-coherent accretion

hot disc

cold disc



spins tend toward intermediate-large values

Spin evolution in gas-rich mergers

MBH mergers : spins align to orbital angular momentum

MBH accretion: spins tend to intermediatelarge values

What we want to know

How and when BHs accrete mass

How fast BHs spin

How and when BHs merge

MBH orbital decay



The orbital evolution depends on the thermodynamical properties of the gas

The orbital evolution depends on accretion if MBHs swallow gas, the

density decreases

Hey, where are all these merging MBHS?

Hunting for sub-parsec binaries



SDSS J092712.65+294344.0

(Bogdanovic et al. 09, Dotti,..., MV et al. 09)

SDSS J153636.22+044127.0 (Boroson & Lauer 09, Chornok et al. 09?)

Sub-parsec binary QSOs

MV, Miller & Dotti 2009

JMM's challenge:

You predict all these tens of mergers per year that LISA will detect. How come there are so few sub-parsec binary QSOs in the SDSS?!?

- MBH merger rate from hierarchical evolving MBH population
 <u>select only MBHs with v_{orb}>2000 km/s</u>
- assign luminosity
 all MBHs are active at some level (Merloni 2009) quasars are triggered by galaxy mergers

• assign lifetime
$$t_{\text{life}} = 6 \text{Myr} \left(\frac{M_{\text{bin}}}{10^7 \,\text{M}_{\odot}} \right)^{3/4} \left(\frac{4 \, q}{1 + q^2} \right)^{3/8} \left(\frac{10^{\lambda}}{0.1} \right)^{-5/8}$$

(Haiman et al. 2009)



All MBHs are active at some level

Merger-driven quasar activity

Most MBH binaries are expected to occur at
higher redshift
lower masses

than sampled by the SDSS quasar catalog
MV et al 2003; Sesana, MV & Haardt 2007



- accretion: need to study jointly with dynamics and thermodynamics
- mergers + accretion: determine how fast MBHs spin at merger, and the magnitude of recoil velocity
- orbital decay: need to study jointly with thermodynamics and accretion
- merging MBHs are good at hiding!